

**SENATOR ISADORE HALL, III**  
**35<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT**  
**STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 4085 ★ SACRAMENTO, CA 95814**  
**WWW.SENATE.CA.GOV/HALL**

**SB 650 (Hall) Gambling Control Commission Records  
FACT SHEET**

**Sponsor:** Senator, Isadore Hall, III  
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**ISSUE**

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The current renewal process for California card rooms is extremely inefficient and overly burdensome. Every two years, a California card room licensee must apply for renewal with the Bureau of Gambling Control (Bureau) 120 days prior to the license expiration, supply background information, and pay renewal fees. The Bureau then has 90 days to write a background report and submit the report to the California Gambling Control Commission (Commission) for approval.

The Bureau, however, is extremely backlogged with licensing applications. In some instances, applicants for new licenses are waiting over three years to complete the process, six times the statutory guideline of 180 days. Additionally, card room licensees often hold various other licenses which are constantly in a state of renewal. The backgrounds of licensees in California are constantly being checked, the burdensome renewal process is unnecessary and costly.

**SOLUTION**

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SB 650 will streamline the renewal process, and allow for more of the Bureau's time and energy to be spent on processing new license applicants by placing all card rooms on the same renewal schedule and allowing for the automatic renewal of a license annually upon the payment of an annual renewal fee. Licensees will still be required to prepare yearly financial statements, covering all financial activities of the gambling operation for each fiscal year, and to engage an independent accountant licensed by the California Board of Accountancy to audit the statements.

This bill makes the renewal process more efficient, and will help to alleviate the licensing backlog while moving from a bi-annual to an annual license renewal. This new renewal process is similar to those utilized in other states with regulated gaming, and the license renewal process for other businesses in California such as Alcoholic Beverage Control licenses, Medical care providers, and health professionals.

**SUPPORT**

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Communities for California Cardrooms